Sl.No.	Name of the company	Number of mines identified
1.	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	6
2.	Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	8
3.	Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	4
	Total :	18

In order to make the proposal encouraging for the prospective bidders, Coal India Limited (CIL) has sought certain permission/clarifications from Ministry of Coal, Government of India concerning sale of coal to such joint ventures partners.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) For selection of joint venture partner(s) having technical expertise and financial capabilities, global Expression of Interest was invited. Twelve responses were received out of which Ten have been short listed who are eligible to bid for the tender. A detailed model Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been developed and finalized after pre-NIT meeting held with the short listed parties.

Illegal mining of coal

292. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that unchecked illegal mining of coal has damaged Ranchi-Patna National Highway NH-33 and poisonous smoke started oozing out in August 2009, endangering lives and property besides environment hazards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against the culprits; and

(d) whether the National Highway has been made roadworthy and environment free from poisonous gases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) As reported by Coal India ltd. (CIL), illegal mining by miscreants was noticed and FIRs were lodged. Illegal entries were made in Seam XII by the miscreants which was virgin below NH-33. They extracted coal below NH-33 and made it hollow. Thus, a part of NH-33 between Lakrigate and Lohagate (near "Mandu-8Km" milestone, while approaching from Ramgarh to Hazaribagh) was made unsafe by rampant theft of *in-situ* coal by illegal miners. The areas belonged to National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) and adjoining forest land belonged to Jharkhand Govt. On 26.06.2009 fire was detected in Seam XII, which was propagated from the surface, possibly due to spontaneous heating. On 09.08.2009, a part of NH-33 pot-holed. Active blazing fire was found on the surface and dense noxious smoke was coming out of it.

(c) Since law and order is a State subject, parimarily it is the responsibility of State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining. However, Government has been advising the concerned State Governments from time to time to take stringent action against the culprits as per provisions and legal aspects available in the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries are also associated closely with the concerned State and District Authorities to deal with this menace.

(d) The fire was dealt with initially by pouring water from surface and smothering of surface cracks and voids. Later on, water mixed with DAP, sodium silicate, liquid nitrogen mixed with foaming agent was poured through strategically drilled 25 Nos. of bore holes. During the operation, water tanker and fire tenders were deployed to quench the fire. Dozer was deployed to fill the voids and smother the cracks. Drills were deployed for drilling boreholes and pay loaders were deployed for mucking and filling. Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) extended all necessary help.

Though the intensity of fire, temperature and smoke has reduced considerably due to all out efforts undertaken by CCL, the total elimination of fire can be achieved only by digging out the affected area. Diversion of the affected part of the road is being undertaken by the State Authority and NHAI.

Shortage of coal in energy sector

†293.SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the projected shortage of coal in the energy sector during the next five years;

(b) the quantity of coal targeted to be produced from indigenous coal mines and the quantity required to be imported to meet the shortfall;

(c) the names of the countries approached for supply of coal; and

(d) the other possibilities being explored in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) As per Mid-Term Appraisal undertaken by the Planning Commission the overall shortage of coal by the year 2011-12 may be of the order of 81.03 Mts. The overall gap between demand and supply at the end of 2016-17 as projected by Working Group on Coal and Lignite for formulation of 11th Five Year Plan may be revised upward to 86.50 Mts.

(b) As per Annual Plan 2009-10 of Ministry of Coal, Mid Term Appraisal by Planning Commission & Working Group Report, the total coal availability from CIL sources and projected import for the year 2009-10, 2011-12 & 2016-17 are given below: